COMMUNITY

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Event Planning in Southwest Detroit

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

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COMMUNITY

LA CARPA THEATRE

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Lost In Our Roots

¡Gente del Southwest!, ¿están listos para el fútbol americano?

Por Santiago Esparza

Se espera que el Draft de la NFL de 2024 atraiga a más de 300.000 personas a la ciudad y la Southwest Detroit Business Association quiere asegurarse de que los visitantes sepan, lo que se tiene para ofrecer.

El Draft se ha convertido en uno de los eventos más importantes de la NFL y se llevará a cabo en el centro de la ciudad del 25 al 27 de abril. La SDBA ha comprado un anuncio en la edición actual de la revista Hour con un código QR (en la página 50) para que los visitantes puedan escanearlo y tener un mapa de las empresas y ofertas en el suroeste de Detroit. La revista está en todos los hoteles de la ciudad, compartió la presidenta y directora ejecutiva de la SDBA, Laura Chávez-Wazerud-Din.

"Queremos enviar la invitación… Queremos que exploren el suroeste de Detroit" comentó la ejecutiva.

Continúa en la pág.2

Southwest Detroit: Are You Ready for Some Football?

By Santiago Esparza

The NFL's 2024 draft is expected to draw more than 300,000 people to the city and the Southwest Detroit Business Association wants to make sure that visitors are aware of what the area has to offer.

The draft has become one of the biggest events for the NFL and will be held downtown April 25-27. The SDBA has purchased an ad in the current issue of Hour Magazine (page 50 of the magazine) with a QR code (see our page 2) so visitors can scan it and have a map of businesses and offerings in southwest Detroit. The magazine is in every hotel in the city, SDBA President and CEO Laura Chavez-Wazerud-Din said.

"We want people to feel invited," she said "We want them to explore southwest Detroit."

SDBA staff are meeting with area businesses to remind them of the significance of the draft and to make sure they are ready for the throngs of people who will venture outside of downtown looking for things to do.

Cont. on pg.2

Detroit NFL Draft Countdown Clock. Photo by Debora Edwards Oñoro

Taqueria El Rey Rises from the Ashes

By Estefania Arellano-Bermudez

Taqueria El Rey has been a Southwest Detroit staple for nearly 30 years. It is beloved for its popular dish, pollo al carbon, which has amassed a cult following. After the fire that destroyed the building on January 29, 2022, the future of the restaurant was uncertain—until now. Taqueria El Rey will reopen in the space formerly known as El Zocalo.

After months of looking for a new space, the owners of Taqueria El Rey decided to move into El Zocalo, a Mexican restaurant on Bagley Street that opened in the 1970s but recently closed. The space on Bagley is in the heart of Mexicantown and is a tourist destination with plenty of parking. El Rey's dining experience may look different, but the owners say that the food will keep its original quality.

"The menu will remain the same, with a few additions," said Daniel Fuentes, co-owner of the family business. Though the business has been cash-only in the past, they will accept major credit cards at the new location.

Since the fire, Taqueria El Rey has found a temporary home at Batch Brewery on Monday and Tuesday evenings. On the weekends, the truck is parked on 23rd and Vernor. Devotees have shown support, following the Taqueria El Rey food truck wherever it goes.

"Got it smelling good, per usual," said Mike Boyd, who works for the City of Detroit Water Department. He and his coworkers can't get enough of the charcoal-grilled chicken and have been loyal customers for over thirteen years. "Anything barbecued is going an extra notch up," Boyd said.

Driving down Bagley with the windows down is as good a navigation system as any. The rich aroma of charcoal-grilled food wafts through the street, pointing hungry customers to the current location of the Taqueria El Rey. The aroma turns heads toward the already attention-getting red food truck.

The plan is for a soft opening in May. This sneak peek is sure to entice customers to return for the highly anticipated grand opening, slated for the summer of 2024.

Fuentes hopes the new location will draw new crowds from downtown and Corktown.

"We need to move some of our equipment in and do a good clean-up," Fuentes said. "We plan to open all the available space as we staff up our team. As for the second floor, we plan on doing private events, parties, and possibly even nightclub type events."

The Southwest Detroit Business Association (SDBA) has been helping Taqueria EL Rey.

"We are helping Taqueria El Rey with legally establishing their food trailer at their property and assisting them with opening a new brick-and-mortar location at the former El Zocalo building," said Laura Chavez-Wazeerud-Din, President and CEO of the SDBA.

The reopening of Taqueria El Rey in the former El Zocalo location brings hope and excitement to customers like Mike Boyd. With its iconic pollo al carbon, tacos, and unwavering community support, the move to the new location will offer customers a different style of Mexican street food not offered at the other restaurants.

"Right now, we only come on the weekends," Boyd said. He hopes once the new location opens, he and his coworkers will be able to eat at Taqueria El Rey for lunch on the weekdays as well.

"People from the community are on our side, helping us get back on our feet," Fuentes said.

Estefania Arellano-Bermudez is a lifelong Detroiter. She has published in the Telegram News, and is a regular contributor to EL CENTRAL Hispanic News.

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This story was made possible by the Race and Justice Reporting Initiative. The goal of the initiative is to build trust between the news media and Black, Indigenous, and People of Color communities and strengthen representative democracy.

Additional photos on pg.4

Daniel and Samuel Fuentes at Taqueria El Rey's pop-up event at Batch Brewing Company. Photo by Alejandro Ugalde Sandoval

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Southwest Detroit: Are You Ready for Some Football?

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The city hosted the Sweet 16 and Elite Eight games of the NCAA tournament and some of the athletes hopped in their buses and visited Southwest Detroit, looking for food, fun and something they can do together as a team of young adults.

Many streets will be closed for the draft and visitors will either have to walk or use shuttles to get around. Chavez wants to ensure that visitors are able to take advantage of the shuttles, particularly ones offered with multiple stops in Southwest Detroit and Corktown (see map this page).

SDBA also will hand out flyers at the draft letting people know to come to the area to shop, eat, hang out or experience the cultural murals that are hallmarks of Southwest Detroit.

"We will have feet on the street letting people know," she said. "We are more than just tacos and tequila."

Mexicantown businesses are unsure of the impact on them but are preparing for the possible influx of visitors to their shops, eateries and stores.

Suzy Villarreal-Garza, owner of Tamaleria Nuevo Leon, will fly a Detroit Lions flag during the draft weekend as a way of welcoming possible visitors. Her tamale shop sits right at the border between Mexicantown and Corktown.

She said the city needs to do more to make sure areas other than downtown and Corktown, which is the area adjacent to downtown, are pushed during the draft festivities.

"We aren't sure what to expect but will be ready," she said. "We have a lot to offer in Mexicantown."

The draft could have a huge impact on the city. Last year's in Kansas City drew at least 300,000 people and generated $164 million in revenue, according to Forbes.

Detroit could exceed those numbers because it is a few hours' drive for Bears, Bengals, Steelers, Packers and Browns fans eager to see who their teams are selecting in the draft.

Jason Rios owns The Shop Screenprinting in Mexicantown and appreciates the SDBA's efforts. He plans on making sure he has plenty of stock available for the event.

He welcomes the push to make visitors aware of businesses such as his.

"It feels great," he said. "I appreciate the SDBA for always trying to give its members and small businesses an opportunity to be noticed. Especially with the NFL draft coming up, lots of people that aren't normally from Michigan will get to experience Detroit and our wonderful Mexicantown community that is full of culture that I guarantee they are not normally used to."

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Attention Business owners: There's still time to submit your fan offers and events for visitors and residents. Visit www.visitdetroit.com/fan-offers

¡Gente del Southwest!, ¿están listos para el fútbol americano?

Con't from pg. 1

El personal de la SDBA se reunió con los negocios locales recordándoles la importancia del Draft y asegurándose que estén preparados para la gran cantidad de visitantes, que saldrán del centro de la ciudad, en busca de cosas que hacer.

La ciudad fue sede de los juegos Sweet 16 y Elite Eight del torneo de la NCAA y algunos de los jóvenes atletas se transportaron al suroeste de Detroit, en busca de comida, diversión y algo que hacer, juntos como equipo.

Muchas calles estarán cerradas por el Draft y los visitantes deberán movilizarse a pie o usar el transporte colectivo. Chávez quiere asegurarse de que los visitantes puedan aprovechar los servicios de transporte, particularmente los ofrecidos con muchas paradas en el suroeste de Detroit y Corktown (ver mapa en esta página).

La SDBA también entregará volantes durante el Draft para invitar a los visitantes a las áreas de compras, comida o para pasar el rato y disfrutar de los murales culturales distintivos del suroeste de Detroit.

"Estaremos en la calle haciéndole saber a la gente…. Que somos más que tacos y tequila" comentó Chavez.

La gente del Mexicantown no está segura de cuál será el impacto, pero se están preparando para la posible afluencia de visitantes a sus tiendas, restaurantes y comercios.

Suzy Villarreal-Garza, propietaria de la Tamalería Nuevo León, alzará la bandera de los Leones de Detroit, el fin de semana del Draft para darle la bienvenida a los visitantes. Su tienda de tamales se encuentra justo en el límite de Mexicantown y Corktown.

Ella opina que la ciudad necesitaría trabajar más, para asegurarse de que otras áreas además del centro y Corktown (que es el área que está al lado del evento), sean impulsadas durante el Draft.

"No estamos seguros de lo qué esperar, pero estaremos preparados…Tenemos mucho que ofrecer en Mexicantown" Comentó.

El Draft podría tener un gran impacto en la ciudad. La del año pasado en Kansas City atrajo al menos a 300.000 personas y generó 164 millones de dólares en ingresos, según la revista Forbes.

Detroit podría superar esos números pues está a unas horas de viaje para los fanáticos de los Bears, Bengals, Steelers, Packers y Browns ansiosos por ver a quién seleccionan sus equipos en el Draft.

Jason Ríos, propietario de The Shop Screenprinting en Mexicantown aprecia los esfuerzos de la SDBA y planea tener suficiente stock disponible para el evento.

Acoge con satisfacción el esfuerzo, de darle a conocer a los visitantes las empresas como la suya.

"Se siente genial…Agradezco a la SDBA por intentar siempre brindarles a sus miembros y pequeñas empresas la oportunidad de hacerse notar. Especialmente con el Draft de la NFL acercándose, muchas personas que no son de Michigan podrán experimentar Detroit y nuestra maravillosa comunidad de Mexicantown, que es una cultura completa a la que les garantizo que no están acostumbrados"

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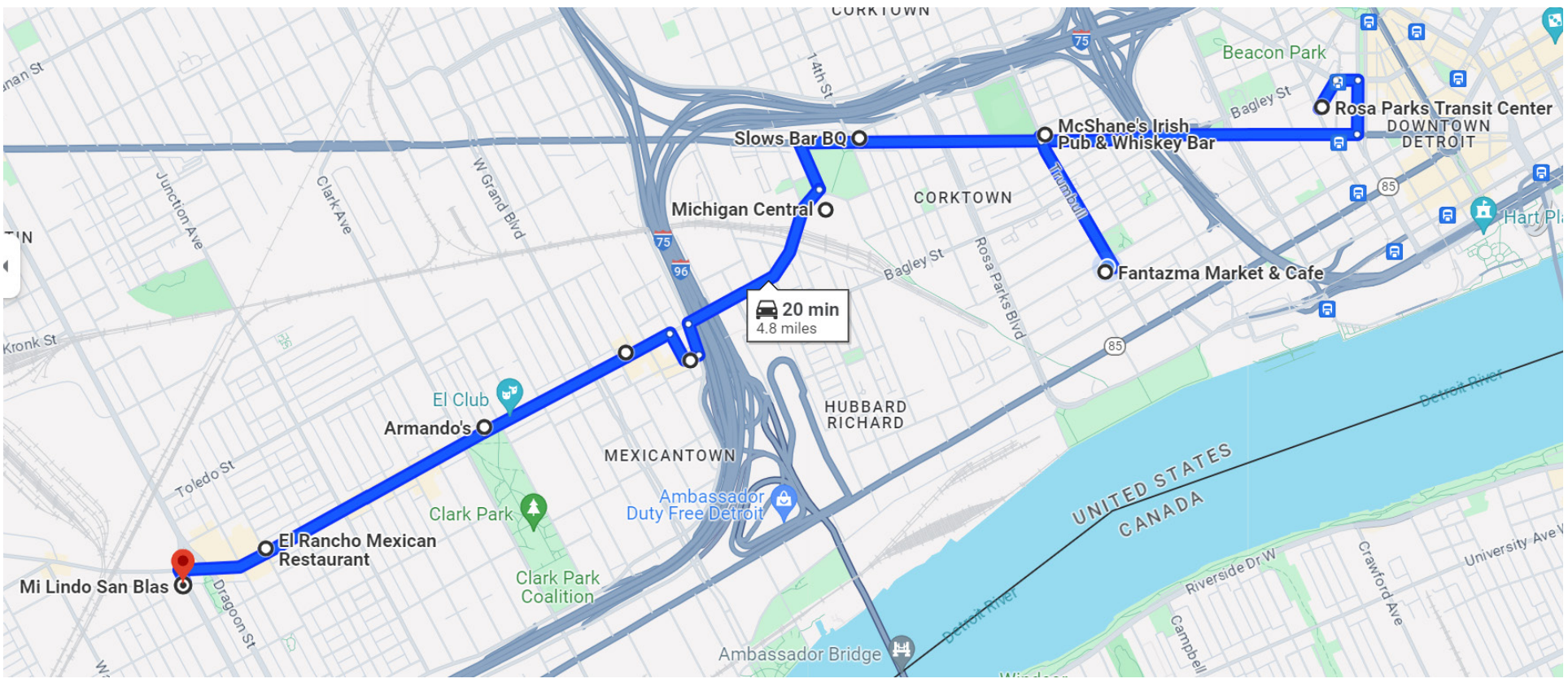
Atención propietarios de negocios: todavía hay tiempo para enviar sus ofertas para los fanáticos y eventos para visitantes y residentes. Visita www.visitdetroit.com/fan-offers

Traducción por Carmen Elena Luna



Above: Free shuttle sponsored by Fantazma Market and Cafe

Below: Scan the QR code for a map of businesses and offers in Southwest Detroit

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2024
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COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT
SNICKERS ICE CREAM

Taqueria El Rey

Con't from pg. 1

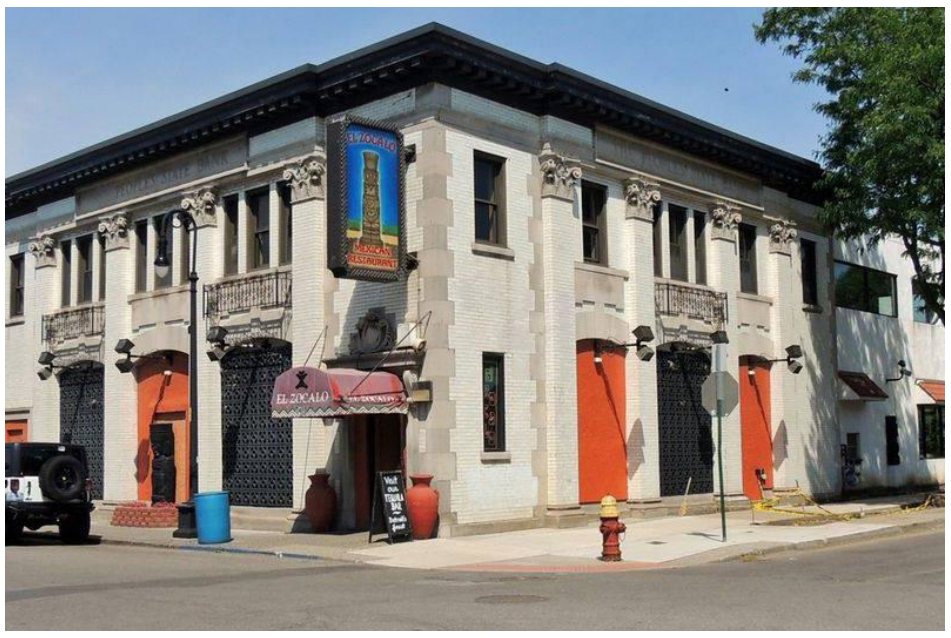
Photos by: Alejandro Ugalde Sandoval

Taqueria El Rey's Pollo a las Brasas, a crowd favorite, with house-made adobo sauce at a pop-up event at Batch Brewing Company

Daniel Fuentes holds a serving of Pollo a las Brasas during a pop-up event

Detailed shots of the grill process showcasing the careful preparation of Taqueria El Rey's famed pollo a las Brasas at their pop-up event

From left to right, Detroit locals Ryan Mangulabnan, Donald O'Keefe, Jeremy Caballo, and D'Antony Shaw enjoy their favorite dishes from Taqueria El Rey at the Batch Brewing Company pop-up event



The former El Zocalo Mexican Restaurant at 3400 Bagley in Mexicantown. Future home of Taqueria El Rey. Photo from Facebook.

La Carpa Teen Ensemble Presents The World Premiere Of Original Play Lost In Our Roots

Their First Show As A Program Of A Host Of People

Lost in Our Roots is an original play devised by the La Carpa Teen Theatre Ensemble that traces the history of Latine lineage through the eyes of time traveling Gen Z students. After observing pivotal moments in Latin American history, the students discover there is more to learn than what is being taught in school. This original play is both a reckoning with some of the darker moments in the distant and recent past and a celebration of Latine culture. Lost in Our Roots illuminates the divide between what today's teens know about their heritage and the access they have to learning about it. Come along on the journey with our young characters as they meet conquistadors and revolutionaries, land in the middle of festivals and quinceañeras, and travel as far as Spain, the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Mexico and, hopefully, back home to Southwest Detroit. Can a fuller knowledge of the past help these students to create the future of their dreams? Lost in Our Roots debuts April 25-28th at The Senate Theater in Southwest Detroit and is performed in both Spanish and English.

" I feel privileged to have the opportunity to work with this beautiful group of kids. We have learned so much together, about our past and about each other. The stories of these teens are a gift for everyone to listen to. Lost in Our Roots is an invitation to accompany the youth as they face their past in hopes of understanding and embracing their present. This program started as an idea,a dream and I feel very proud and grateful that it has found a home with A Host of People. The program will now be a grounding force for the community of Southwest Detroit and its youth. " - Karilú Alarcón Forshee, La Carpa Teen Ensemble Director.

"We are so thrilled to have the La Carpa Teen Ensemble as a program of A Host of People led by longtime ensemble member Karilú Alarcón Forshee. It's amazing to see these incredible youth creating theater so closely aligned with the work AHOP makes that 'investigates the past in order to better understand our present to imagine and manifest a more just and celebratory future,' and they are doing it in their own distinctive voice. This year as AHOP celebrates our 10th anniversary we have launched a 3-year thematic investigation of what it means to be 'Good Ancestors'. Their play Lost in Our Roots nails that assignment." -Sherrine Azab, A Host of People Co-Director.

Lost in Our Roots is conceived and directed by Karilú Alarcón Forshee along with members of 2023/24 La Carpa Teen Ensemble; and La Carpa Program Coordinator & Stage Manager Lily Blancas

Design & Production Team: Elton Monroy Duran (Scenic Backdrop & Graphic Designer), Chantel Gaidica (Lighting Designer), Andrew Jordan (Costume Designer), Gloria Rocha (Community & Rehearsal Space partner), Amari Harris (Sound Engineer), Sherrine Azab (AHOP Co-Director/La Carpa Producer), Jake Hooker (AHOP Co-Director/Production Team), Vanessa Mukes (AHOP Stage & Ensemble Manager), Danté Jones (AHOP Associate Producer/ Production Team)

PERFORMANCES

All performances of Lost in Our Roots are free and open to the public and will be performed at The Senate Theater 6424 Michigan Ave. Detroit, MI 48210 Reservations are strongly recommended. Performances are April 25-28, 2024

About A Host of People

Celebrating 10 years, A Host of People is a multi-racial Detroit-based ensemble theater company creating original work for social change that celebrates imagination, complexity, and the synthesis of seemingly disparate elements—at once epic and intimate, political and personal, poetic and approachable. AHOP exists to create aesthetically rigorous, intellectually challenging theater that is warm, welcoming, and inspiring to people from all walks of life. We choose our subject matter and themes carefully with an eye to stories, topics, and aesthetic approaches that will be equally thrilling to the most adventurous theater fans as well as those with less exposure to the form. This is how A Host of People moves people: we play with the light and the dark; the head and the heart.

About the La Carpa Teen Ensemble

La Carpa Teen Ensemble is a bilingual program of A Host of People created to center the stories of the youth from the Latiné community of Detroit. Through a creative process where the youth have the opportunity to learn about their culture and explore their own story, the program seeks to strengthen their voices and guide them to see their unique light. La Carpa aims to open a space where the youth can feel seen, connected and uplifted. The program will focus on teaching Theatre Arts, but will also nurture the youth's individual talents. Ultimately, La Carpa hopes that through the arts, the youth will embrace their voice and shed light on their community and future.

About La Carpa Teen Ensemble Founder and Director Karilú Alarcón Forshee

Karilú Alarcón Forshee was raised in Juárez, México . She is an interdisciplinary artist who fi nds joy creating performances that blend experimental theatre and music; she fi nds profound inspiration in her roots, and the women in her family. She has been a Detroit based performer and teaching artist since 2011 and a member of the theater company A Host of People since 2013. Karilú currently works as a teaching artist for Living Arts Detroit, University Musical Society and Mosaic Youth Theater of Detroit and recently became a Detroit Kresge Arts Fellow.

El Grupo De Teatro Juvenil La Carpa Presenta La Premier Mundial De La Obra Original Perdidos En Nuestras Raices

La Primera Produccion De La Carpa Como Programa De Host Of People

Lost in Our Roots/ Perdidos en Nuestras Raíces es una obra original creada por La Carpa Teen Theatre Ensemble que recorre la historia del linaje Latiné desde la perspectiva de los jóvenes artistas. Después de observar momentos fundamentales en la historia de Latinoamérica, los estudiantes descubren que hay mucho que aprender, más allá de lo que la escuela les enseña. Esta obra original es un reconocimiento de algunos de los momentos mas obscuros del pasado y una celebración a la cultura Latiné. Lost in Our Roots/ Perdidos en Nuestras Raíces saca a la luz la división que existe entre lo que los adolescentes de hoy en día saben de su herencia cultural y el acceso que tienen para aprender sobre ello. Acompañanos en este viaje con estos jóvenes personajes quienes conocerán a conquistadores y revolucionarios, llegaran a tierras de festivales y quinceañeras, y harán viajes tan lejanos como a La Gran España, República Dominicana, Costa Rica, México y esperemos que de regreso a su hogar Southwest Detroit. ?Sera que un conocimiento más completo del pasado les ayude a estos estudiantes a crear el futuro de sus sueños? Lost in Our Roots / Perdidos en Nuestras Raíces debuta del 25 al 28 de Abril en The Senate Theater en Southwest Detroit y es presentada en Inglés y en Español.

"Me siento privilegiada de tener la oportunidad de trabajar con este hermoso grupo de adolescentes. Hemos aprendido tanto juntos, sobre nosotros y nuestro pasado. Las historias de estos jóvenes son un regalo para el público. Perdidos en Nuestras Raíces es una invitación a acompañar a los jóvenes en un viaje donde enfrentarán a su pasado con la esperanza de comprender y abrazar su presente. Este programa empezó como solo una idea, un sueño… Me siento muy orgullosa y agradecida de que el programa encontrara un hogar con A Host of People. El programa es ahora una constante que tiene como fi nalidad impulsar a los jóvenes de Southwest Detroit y a sus familias." -Karilú Alarcón Forshee, Directora del grupo de teatro juvenil La Carpa.

"Nos sentimos muy emocionados de que La Carpa Teen Ensemble sea ahora un programa de A Host of People bajo la dirección de Karilú Alarcón Forshee quien ha sido miembro de nuestra compañía por mucho tiempo. Es grandiose ver a estos increíbles jóvenes crear teatro tan similar al teatro que haremos en AHOP. Investigamos el pasado para mejor comprender nuestro presente con la esperanza de imaginar y manifestar un futuro más justo y célebre. Estos jovenes lo hacen a su manera y con su propia voz. Este año en AHOP celebramos nuestro decimo aniversario. Hemos lanzado una investigacion de 3 años sobre lo que signifi ca ser un "buen ancestro". La obra Lost in our Roots/ Perdidos en Nuestras Raices hace just eso" - Sherrine Azab, Co-Director de A Host of People

Lost in Our Roots/ Perdidos en Nuestras Raíces es concebida y dirigida por Karilú Alarcón Forshee en colaboración con los jóvenes de la temporada 2023/24 del grupo de teatro juvenil La Carpa; Y la coordinadora y jefe de piso del programa La Carpa, Lily Blancas.

Equipo de Diseño & Producción: Elton Monroy Duran (Telones & Diseño Grafi co), Chantel Gaidica (Diseño de Iluminación), Andrew Jordan (Diseño de Vestuario), Gloria Rocha (Socia de espacio de ensayos), Amari Harris (Ingeniero de Sonido), Sherrine Azab (Co-Directora de AHOP/ Productora de La Carpa), Jake Hooker (Co-Director de AHOP/ Equipo de Producción), Vanessa Mukes (Gerente de piso y Ensamble de AHOP), Danté Jones (Productor asociado de AHOP /Equipo de Producción)

PRESENTACIONES

Todas las presentaciones de Lost in Our Roots/ Perdidos en Nuestras Raíces son gratis y para todo el publico y se llevaran acabo en el Senate Theater 6424 Michigan Ave. Detroit, MI 48210. Recomendamos ampliamente hacer reservaciones

Las presentaciones son del 25 al 28 de Abril, 2024 Horario: 7pm de Jueves a Sabado; Domingo a las 5pm Las puertas se abriran una hora antes de las presentaciones, Se tomara asiento 30 minutos antes de que comience el show.

Sobre A Host of People

Celebrando 10 años, A Host of People es una compañia de teatro multi-racial que radica en Detroit. La compañía crea piezas de teatro originales para el cambio social que celebra la imaginación, la complejidad, y la síntesis de los elementos obviamente dispares —algunas veces épico e íntimo, político y personal, poético y disponible. AHOP existe para crear teatro estéticamente riguroso, intelectualmente desafi ante, teatro que es cálido, de bienvenida que inspira a toda persona en general. Elegimos nuestros temas con cuidado con especial atención a las historias, temas y con alcance estético que emociona tanto a fanáticos del teatro, como a aquellos que tienen menos exposición a este arte. Así es como A Host of People mueve a su público: jugamos con la luz y la oscuridad; la cabeza y el corazón.

Sobre el grupo de tatro juvenil La Carpa

El grupo de Teatro juvenil La Carpa es un programa bilingue de A Host of People creado para resaltar las historias de los jovenes de la comunidad Latiné de Detroit. Por medio de un proceso creativo donde los jóvenes tienen la oportunidad de aprender sobre su cultura y explorar su propia historia, el programa busca fortalecer sus voces y guiarlos a ver su propia luz interior. La Carpa facilita un espacio donde los jóvenes pueden sentirse vistos, conectados e impulsados. El programa se enfoca en enseñar Artes Teatrales, pero tam bien acoje los talentos individuales de cada participante. Por lo tanto, La Carpa espera que por medio de las artes los jovenes abracen su voz, iluminen a su comunidad y a sus futuros.

Sobre Karilú Alarcón Forshee creadora y directora del programa de teatro juvenil La Carpa

Karilú Alarcón Forshee crecio y se crio en Juárez, México . Ella es una artista interdisciplinaria a quien le apasiona crear arte que mezcla las artes teatrales y la música; Su más profundity inspiration son sus raíces y las mujeres de su familia. Ella es una artista que radica en Detroit desde 2011 y es miembro de la compañía de teatro A Host of People desde 2013. Karilú actualmente trabaja como maestra de artes para Living Arts y es gerente del programa de pasantías Artisticas en Culture Source. Su trabajo como directora de teatro juvenil incluye colaboraciones con University Musical Society y Mosaic Youth Theater of Detroit. En 2020 recibio el honor de convertirse en un Detroit Kresge Arts Fellow.

Special World's Cultures

Inti Raymi – festival of the sun

Inti Raymi: Festival Of The Sun, Peru

South of the equator, in the southern hemisphere, the festival of the sun, Inti Raymi, takes place on June 24, which is the ceremony dedicated to Tayta Inti, creative father and giver of life. The festival is a form of gratitude to the sun for the crops received from mother earth, Pachamama.

It is known that the first Wawa Inti Raymi was held in 1430 during the time of the Inca emperor Pachacutec. In 1535 the last Wawa Inti Raymi attended by an Inca emperor was recorded. However, some forms of syncretism were preserved that meant that the festival was not completely eradicated during the Spanish viceroyalty.

In 1944 it was taken up again as a vindication of the Inca culture of Cusco, having such importance for Peruvian culture that it is recognized as a holiday in the Peruvian calendar.

For this festival, people from various communities gather to offer fruits from the corn harvest, as well as dance. The party consists of three acts:

The first act takes place in the Qorikancha temple, which during the Tahuantinsuyo was the main place to worship the sun. It begins with the presence of the Sinchi (general of the Inca army) preceded by the imperial army and the acllas (chosen women). Then the T'ika T'aqaqkunas appear and throw flowers on the ground to make way for the Inca's entrance. In addition, the Pichaqkunas make their appearance, who sweep the ground to the rhythm of pututos, quenas and tinyas. Finally the Inca emperor appears with his wife Coya and the high priest Willaq Umu. The Inca and the priest lead the offering to the sun and then go to the Plaza de Armas of Cusco.

The second act takes place in Auqaypata, currently the Plaza de Armas. It is where the Coca rite and the Meeting of the Times take place between the Inca and mayor of the city, who receives the khipu where the three powers are represented: munay, yachay and llankay (wanting, knowing and working). The staging begins with the entrance of Sinchi and his personal guard. He orders the entry of the army and the musicians, representatives of the four regions of the empire. Accompanied by music and dance from the Inca armies, Coya and her husband, the Inca emperor, make their appearance. Both are accompanied by the ñustas and young people of the Inca nobility. The Inca and the high priest ascend to the main altar and lead the sacrificial ceremony of a llama and coca leaf offering in honor of the sun god (Inti).

The third act takes place in Sacsayhuaman. In this imposing archaeological center – located one kilometer from the Inca neighborhood of Qolqanpata – the central ceremony takes place. The show begins with the entry of the sinchi along with the four officers of the four imperial armies. With an impressive musical background of drums, pututos, quenas and tinyas; The Inca army makes its appearance, made up of approximately four hundred young people. Under a chorus of pututos, the Inca emperor makes his appearance who ascends to the usnu (ceremonial table) to make offerings to the sun (in the Quechua language) and end the Inti Raymi show. In the end the army, the nobles, virgins of the sun, the coya and the Inca retire in front of the audience of Sacsayhuaman.

Sigue cada semana en
EL CENTRAL Hispanic News
ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO,
by Mariana Ayón RV

ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO

Inti Raymi – fiesta del sol

Inti Raymi: fiesta del sol, Perú

Al sur de la línea del ecuador, en el hemisferio sur, se lleva a cabo el 24 junio la fiesta al sol, Inti Raymi, que es la ceremonia dedicada al Tayta Inti, padre creador y dador de vida. La festividad es una forma de gratitud al sol por las cosechas recibidas de la madre tierra, Pachamama.

Se tiene conocimiento que el primer Wawa Inti Raymi se celebró en 1430 en los tiempos del emperador inca Pachacutec. En

1535 se registró el último Wawa Inti Raymi al que asistió un emperador inca. No obstante, se conservaron algunas formas de sincretismo que hicieron que la festividad no quedara del todo erradicada durante el virreinato español.

En 1944 se retomó como una reivindicación a la cultura inca del Cusco, teniendo tal importancia para la cultura peruana que se reconoce como día feriado en el calendario de Perú.

Para esta fiesta se congregan personas de varias comunidades a ofrendar frutos de la cosecha de maíz, así como, bailes. La fiesta consiste en tres actos:

El primer acto se realiza en el templo Qorikancha que durante el Tahuantinsuyo era el principal recinto para rendir culto al sol. Inicia con la presencia del Sinchi (general del ejército inca) precedido por el ejército

imperial y las acllas (mujeres escogidas). Luego aparecen las T'ika T'aqaqkunas quienes arrojan flores al suelo para dar paso a la entrada del inca. Además, hacen su aparición los Pichaqkunas, quienes barren el suelo al ritmo de pututos, quenas y tinyas. Finalmente aparece el emperador inca junto a su esposa la Coya y el sumo sacerdote Willaq Umu. El inca y el sacerdote lideran la ofrenda al sol para luego dirigirse a la Plaza de Armas del Cusco.

El segundo acto se lleva a cabo en la Auqaypata, actualmente la Plaza de Armas. Es donde se desarrolla el rito de la Coca y el Encuentro de los Tiempos entre el Inca y alcalde de la ciudad, quien recibe el khipu donde están representados los tres poderes: munay, yachay y llankay (querer, saber y trabajar). La escenificación comienza con la entrada del Sinchi y su guardia personal. Éste ordena el ingreso del ejército y los músicos, representantes de los cuatro suyos (regiones) del imperio. Acompañado de música y danza de los ejércitos incaicos, hace su aparición la Coya y su esposo, el emperador inca. Ambos son acompañados

por las ñustas y jóvenes de la nobleza inca. El inca y el sumo sacerdote ascienden al altar principal y lideran la ceremonia de sacrificio de una llama y ofrenda de hoja de coca en honor al dios sol (Inti).

El tercer acto se realiza en Sacsayhuaman. En este imponente centro arqueológico –ubicado a un kilómetro del barrio inca de Qolqanpata, se realiza la ceremonia central. El espectáculo comienza con el ingreso del sinchi junto a los cuatro oficiales de los cuatro ejércitos imperiales. Con un impresionante fondo

musical de tambores, pututos, quenas y tinyas; hace su aparición el ejército inca, formado por cuatrocientos jóvenes aproximadamente. Bajo un coro de pututos, hace su aparición el emperador inca quien asciende al usnu (mesa ceremonial) para realizar ofrendas al sol (en lengua quechua) y dar por terminado el espectáculo del Inti Raymi. Al final el ejército, los nobles, vírgenes del sol, la coya y el inca se retiran frente al público de Sacsayhuaman.

Tell them you saw it in Diles que lo viste en
EL CENTRAL
Hispanic News

A Detroit Love Story: Event Planning in Southwes

By Angela T. Perez Harris • Photos by Erik Howard.

As an event planner for over ten years in Detroit, I've worked on major events like Fiesta Tigres, Fun at Bat - Clark Park, Detroit Tigers Opening Day, and the Red Wings Community Skate Fest, to name a few. So orchestrating my wedding, the most important event I could plan, allowed me to bring together the incredible talents and trusted vendors I've enjoyed working with throughout my career. This celebration was a personal milestone and a testament to the rich tapestry of talent within Detroit's vibrant Southwest community.

From the outset, I knew I wanted to work with those who shared my vision and passion for creating memorable experiences. For years, I have worked with creative and innovative Latino vendors. Staying connected to the community played a pivotal role in curating an event that reflected the unique spirit of Southwest Detroit.

Food is a part of my cultural identity, so I decided to collaborate with **Coronados Southwest Taco** food truck, a local gem in the area, a nod to the flavors of my hometown and a testament to the remarkable culinary talent present in the *barrio*. My decision went beyond having delicious food; it was about fostering relationships and supporting the culinarians who make our community thrive.

The way a wedding is decorated has a profound impact on the look and feel of people's memories. I wanted the decorations to reflect both of us, so I partnered with **Under the Rainbow** events owned by Roxanne Rodriguez, a Southwest Detroit native, who brought her passion for design to life, creating an ambiance that not only complemented **The Riverside**, a loft style events venue on Grand River Ave but also spoke to the soul of our love story. This collaboration reinforced the importance of nurturing relationships within the community, turning them into opportunities for shared success.

Wedding images help tell the story of your wedding day, from the moment you start getting dressed to the end of your wedding reception. I didn't just want wedding photos; I wanted documentary-style images to chronicle our day. **Erik Howard**, an internationally recognized photographer, captured these moments, a deliberate choice rooted in trust and familiarity. Erik can tell a story through his photography. I entrusted him with capturing the essence of our wedding day—not just the ceremonial moments but the broader narrative of community, connection, and love.

I chose to work with exceptional vendors, such as **Cafecito Alvarez**, a Mexican-style coffee bar that never existed before. The Alvarez sisters cultivated the art of Mexican coffee, such as *cafe de olla,* and made it accessible to our community.

Then there is Alana Rodriguez from **Mama Coo's Boutique**, who used unique vintage accents to add romantic and delicate details to the venue. Rodriguez is an artist who curated and built an *ofrenda*, an emotional detail representing generations of loved ones, most notably my mother, whom I had recently lost the year before.

I proudly hail from Southwest Detroit, and this wedding wasn't just a personal celebration but also a declaration of my ongoing commitment to the neighborhood that feels like my family. The connections forged and the collaborations showcased at The Riverside underscored the importance of staying rooted in the community and celebrating the raw talent that makes Detroit a center of creativity and inspiration.

My wedding wasn't just about planning and executing an event; it was about championing the local talent and local small business that make Detroit a creative hub. Brides or businesses planning events in the city, need to look no further than the wealth of talent here in Southwest Detroit.

*Photographer **Erik Howard** brought his photo documentary skills to chronicle the wedding of Angela T. Perez and Quentin Harris.*

Coronados Southwest Tacos, *a local gem in Southwest Detroit, brought the flavors of Mexican street food.*

*Alana Rodriguez, a local creative and proprietor of **Mama Coo's Boutique**, created a traditional ofrenda as a way to honor family members who have passed.*

Here is a list of other vendors or individuals I worked with who have ties to Detroit:

Ties to Southwest Detroit

- Cafecito Alvarez
  Mexican Style Coffee Bar
- Angela Gallegos
  Master of Ceremonies and Wedding Officiant
- Andrea Gallegos
  Hairstylist
- DJ Tony Toca
  DJ
- Lofi Mijo
  Vinyl DJ
- Mama Coo's (Alana Rodriguez)
  Decor Rental and Ofrenda Designer

Ties to Detroit (not Southwest):

- The Riverside
  Venue 8711 Grand River Ave. Detroit, MI
- Jordan Groves
  Catering and Bartenders
- Time to Play Rentals
  Furniture and Bar Rentals
- Erin Morris
  Day of Coordinator
- Shaina Ortiz
  Assistant Day of Coordinator
- Christopher Gene
  Photographer (Groomsmen)
- Social Photo Booth
  Tomas Muzik

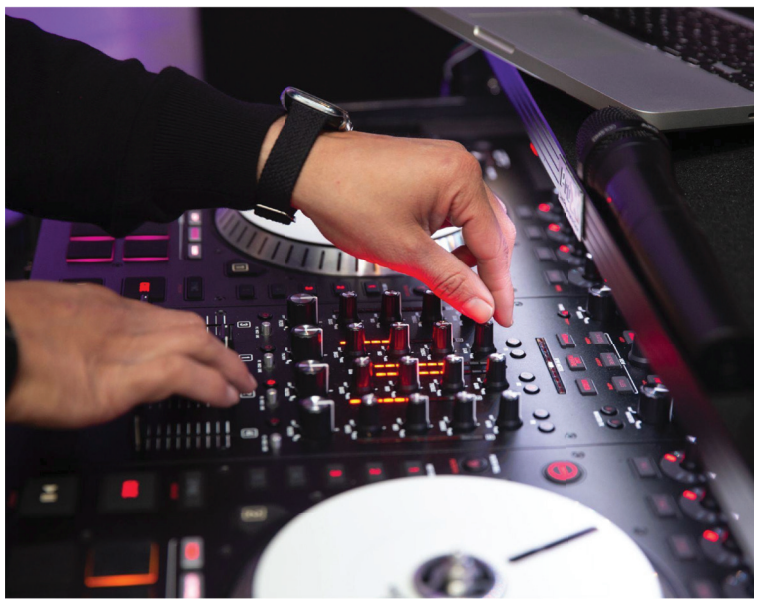
t Detroit

As the fiesta went into the wee hours, ***Cafecito Alvarez*** *was on hand to bring Mexican coffee, such as cafe de olla, and cafe dulce de leche, to the invited guests.*

Designer Roxanne Rodriguez, the owner of ***Under the Rainbow****, showcased her vision and creativity in decorating event venue,* ***The Riverside****.*

Milagro Compañia de Ballet Folklorico *was hired as part of the entertainment roster for the Perez-Harris wedding.*

Angela Gallegos *- Master of Ceremonies and Wedding Officiant.*



Guests danced into the night as ***DJ Tony Toca*** *played hip hop, R&B, Latino, reggaeton at the Perez - Harris wedding.*

before the wedding guests arrive and the dance party begins. The bride and groom wanted Motown oldies played to honor their Detroit roots.

Panthers Win 34-20

EL CENTRAL
HISPANIC NEWS
SPORTS

Sports Editor: Dan Graschuck/ EL CENTRAL

Photos by Adam J. Dewey

The Michigan Panthers (2-1) defeated the Houston Roughnecks (0-3), 34-20.

The Michigan Panthers travel to take on the San Antonio Brahmas, this Saturday, April 20th, at 7:00 pm (FOX).

The Michigan Panthers remain on the road, traveling the Memphis Showboats, on Sunday, April 28th, at 3:00 pm (FOX), before returning back to Ford Field, to host the Arlington Renegades on Sunday, Cinco de Mayo, May 5th, at 1:00 pm (FOX).

Photos below are highlights from Michigan Panthers and Houston Roughnecks

Marcus Simms (9) catches an E.J. Perry pass and breaks it for a 66 yard touchdown

Matthew Colburn II (26) celebrates a successful two point conversion

E.J. Perry (4) scrambles for a first down

Tigers Staying In Contention !!!

Last Sunday, the Detroit Tigers wrapped up the series against the Minnesota Twins, splitting the series 2 games a piece.

The Tigers beat the Twins on Sunday 4-3, with Javier Báez helping the Tigers get on the board, by scoring his fist home run of the season.

With the Tigers win on Sunday, they are above .500 on the season, and are in contention for the top spot of the American League, in the Central Divison.

Photos below are highlights of Javier Báez last in last Sunday's game agaisnt the Twins

Photos provided Mike Alberts/ EL CENTRAL

DETROIT CITY TO WELCOME PUMAS

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS SPORTS

Pateando la No. 5

David Levine
EL CENTRAL

Even during an off-week, Detroit's professional soccer club made some significant headlines.
The biggest announcement from Le Rouge concerned the first international friendly since before COVID.
The club has welcomed several Liga MX teams in the past, including most recently Atlas in 2019. This year Pumas will visit Keyworth Stadium on June 22 with a 7pm start.

Pumas have been crowned champions of Mexico three times, the last time during the 1990-1991 season. They have won the Clausura three times and the Apertura once since then. During the 1980s, they also won three CONCACAF Champions Cups. Led by the legendary striker Hugo Sanchez, the 1980s produced the club's biggest successes.

Pumas are currently in the middle of the league, nine points behind top of the table Club America after fifteen games. They are due to host the league leaders this weekend.

Their visit to Detroit coincides with the start of the Copa America. For the majority of the squad, this brief trip to the USA will serve as preparation for the Leagues Cup competition against MLS. Pumas will be meeting Austin FC of MLS and their Liga MX rivals Monterrey during the group phase.

For DCFC, this friendly will give the club a bit more international exposure. A club with the following the size of Pumas attracts attention. DCFC's players will be able to measure themselves against a team from the top league in the region. Season ticket holders have this game included in their package, so with the following Pumas will no doubt have, there should be a good atmosphere.

Ahead of DCFC's midweek US Open Cup match against local rivals the Michigan Stars, the USL Championship awarded Danny Dichio the first Manager of the Month award of 2024. Le Rouge has started the season with four straight wins, putting them near the top of the Eastern Conference. With only minor tweaks to last year's team, Dichio has produced a superb start. Following the big derby, DCFC will be back at Keyworth on Saturday afternoon against the Oakland Roots at 4pm. The Roots have already played six games, winning two and drawing one to put them eighth in the Western Conference. DCFC will likely still be without striker Elvis Amoh and winger Rhys Williams due to injury. City will need to continue their hot start to keep up with high-flying Charleston and Louisville City.

New Mens U of D Mercy Titans Basketball Head Coach

The University of Detroit Mercy Titans Mens Basketball, held a press conference, last Wednesday to announce Mark Montgomery, as their new head coach.

Mark Montgomery was a former U of D Mercy Titans assistant coach and was currently assistant coach of the Michigan State University Spartans Men's Basketball team.

Montgomery is a native of Inkster, MI, and was a four year starter at Michigan State, and was an assistant coach for 13 years. Montgomery was also head coach at Nothern Illinois University (NIU) from 2011-2021

Photo provided by the University of Detroit Mercy Titans

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EDITORIAL OPINION

"O.J. & My Brother"

By Raoul Lowery Contreras

Friday afternoon, October/ November 1969.

San Diego was getting ready to watch Don Coryell's San Diego State Aztecs wipe the stadium floor on Saturday night with the "slaughter" of the week. On Sunday afternoon the entire country would watch the San Diego Chargers play the Buffalo Bills and their great rookie running back O.J. Simpson.

He had been awarded the esteemed Heisman Trophy as the best college football player of the year eleven months before for his "work" as the running back for the University of Southern California - USC. He would be the first running back in professional football to grind out 2000 yards in a 14-game season.

Charger eat reporter Nick Canepa would call O.J. the best football player he had ever seen. I agreed.

Friday afternoon, I was in my normal weekend routine: I was the 27-year-old Public Relations Director for the (infamous?) horse race track that ran every weekend year-round - the Agua Caliente Race Track in Tijuana. I had to hit the I-5 by 4:00 p.m. to beat traffic to Tijuana. Dinner before the dog races. Watch the races, buying drinks for big betters and be #2 management . This Friday was different.

The call came in around 3:00 p.m. On the line, my old friend, a semi-original San Diego Charger defensive back Claude (Hoot) Gibson, an assistant coach for the Buffalo Bills who would be a college head coach in future years. I hadn't spoken to him in three years. Could he bring a couple of coaches and a player or two down to the horse races on Saturday, he asked.

"Of course." As I had the ultimate power of the pen, they would be my guests for lunch at the private Turf Club. The van with the seven Bill coaches and players arrived at the border. The police escort I provided escorted them to the track. Imagine my surprise when I greeted them at the track entrance: O.J. Simpson. I had seen him play in person at the Rose Bowl plus many times on television but though I knew almost the entire Charger team, I didn't know O.J.

But there was more, he had been featured by the Los Angeles Times as Division 1 player of the week almost every week of the 1968 season; my brother - Loyola University quarterback- Jerry had been honored as the Division II player of the week several times with O.J. sitting next to him at the award luncheons. They became friends.

None of the 12,000 people at the track knew O.J. was there except those in the Turf Club. He sat at my table poring over the Racing Form getting up to make his bets. He bet 20-30 dollars a race and managed to cash a few tickets. He knew what he was doing. He complimented the chef who prepared his Carne Asada lunch steak and gave him a twenty dollar tip.

I asked him if he would help me crown the winner of the feature race. Sure, he replied. We walked down to the ground floor and made our way to a gate so we could walk across the track unnoticed before the race to take our places in the Judges tower. The track announcer introduced O.J.

12,000 Americans and Mexicans cheered their heads off… O.J. Simpson..! when we crowned the winner. We started back to the Turf Club. But this time thousands of people blocked our way, chanting, O.J!, O.J! After all, this was Heisman Trophy winning O.J. Simpson, perhaps the greatest football running back of all time. It took us over 30 minutes to make it back to the Turf Club. Football is very popular in Tijuana.

They left, led by the Tijuana police escort. I had earned my pay for the day.

The next day when the Bills were lining up to receive the game's kick-off, O.J. was in the end zone when he spotted my brother Jerry on the sideline where he was wearing a "Field Pass" provided by Coach Gibson that I couldn't use because I had Sunday horse races to attend to.

The entire nation watched O.J. Simpson walk over to the sideline to shake hands with a 19 year-old kid who he hadn't seen since they shared Player of the Week honors in Los Angeles.

Like everyone else in the universe I watched the trial of O.J. Cheered his lawyers, cheered the jury's "Not Guilty; booed the "lynching" by the all-White Santa Monica civil jury and was shocked when a wild Nevada judge took out her dislike of O.J's acquital by sentencing him to 33 years in prison for a two-year county jail term Joe Blow would have received.

At 76 he died last week. He knew my brother. My brother died last year at 74. I wonder if they are catching up like they used to.

Opinions in this column are not necessarily those of the Publisher or Editor

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EDITORIAL OPINION

¿Qué les preocupa a las y los votantes latinos?

Por José López Zamorano
Para La Red Hispana

A menos de siete meses de las elecciones del 5 de noviembre, escuchamos nuevamente que los latinos podrían ser decisivos en el desenlace.

De los 6 estados llamados "columpio" que podrían definir la elección presidencial en un sentido o en otro, Arizona y Nevada se perfilan como dos sitios clave donde el voto latino, en efecto puede ser la diferencia.

En Arizona, alrededor de una cuarta parte de los votantes probables son de origen latino, de acuerdo con la la Asociación Nacional de Funcionarios Latinos Elegidos y Nombrados (NALEO).

En Nevada, la situación es similar. Los latinos representan casi uno de cada cinco votantes registrados y tienden a ser más jóvenes y no afiliados a ninguno de los partidos principales que los no latinos.

Una compilación de encuestas, realizada por The New York Times y Siena College sugiere que el apoyo latino al presidente Joe Biden está debilitando en comparación con las elecciones presidenciales de 2020.

Un amplio estudio realizado esta semana por la organización UnidosUS, antes el Consejo nacional de la Raza, muestra que las principales preocupaciones de los votantes hispanos están, en este momento relacionadas con la economía.

Un 82% de las y los latinos entrevistados cita un aumento en los costos de alimentos y gastos básicos de vida. Un 76% mencionó costos para comprar o alquilar un lugar para vivir. 67% lista de precios del gas y el 51% cita el costo de los gastos relacionados con la atención médica, como medicamentos y visitas al médico.

Cuando se les preguntó sobre los

principales factores que impulsan su preocupación por el empleo y la economía, un 58% dijo que su trabajo no paga lo suficiente o que tienen que buscar un segundo trabajo para llegar a fin de mes. El 40% dice que su trabajo no ofrece licencia remunerada ni días de enfermedad. Al 37% le preocupan los despidos o la reducción de horas.

Entre quienes indicaron que la atención médica era un tema de máxima prioridad, un 66% de los votantes mencionaron costos elevados como primas mensuales, copagos y deducibles y el 53% mencionó los altos costos de los medicamentos recetados.

"Las preocupaciones sobre las circunstancias financieras personales y las continuas experiencias económicas estresantes subrayan los sentimientos de pesimismo que prevalecen en todos los grupos demográficos", indicó UnidosUS.

Su conclusión es que muchos latinos se sienten pesimistas sobre la dirección del país y la mayoría no ve a ninguno de los partidos como defensores efectivos de sus preocupaciones más apremiantes.

El mensaje a demócratas y republicanos es claro: Si cualquiera de los dos partidos quiere conquistar el voto hispano, es importante no sólo que le hablen en español, sino que respondan a sus necesidades más apremiantes y a las aspiraciones de un electorado cuyo voto no tienen garantizado.

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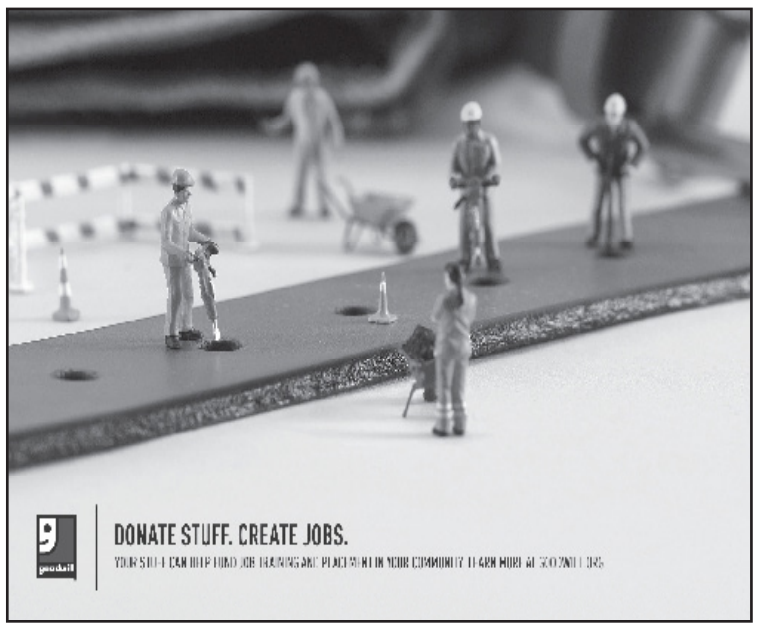

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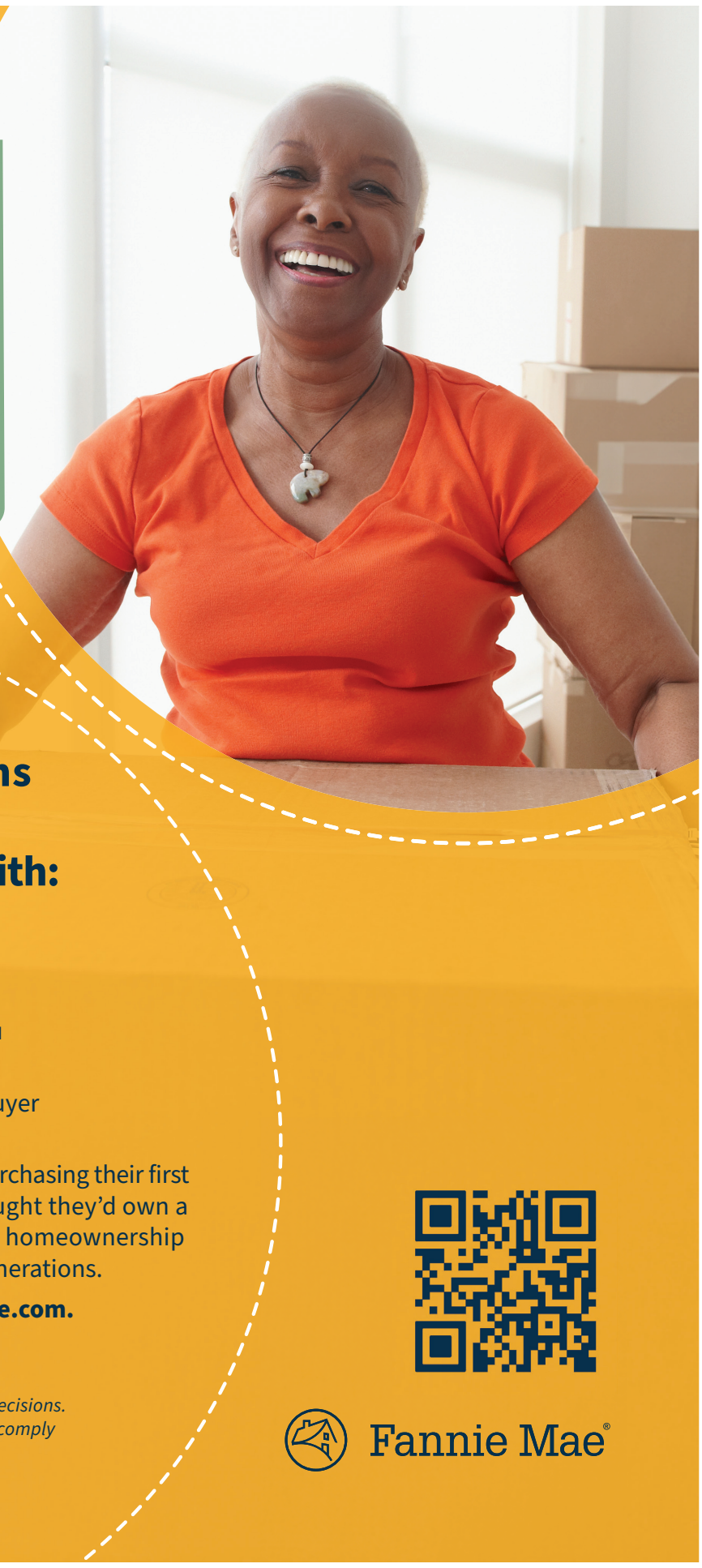

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A legend in Mexican folk music comes to Detroit @GarageCultural this Friday.

This week Detroit will be visited by legendary Mexican singer-songwriter Gabino Palomares, whose compositions portray Mexican and Latin American society in all its complexity. Originally from Guanajuato, Gabino is part of a generation that created political-cultural movements such as the New Latin American Song and Canto Nuevo in Mexico. In his own words: "I'm part of 'the salmon brotherhood': always swimming against the current!"

Songs like "La Maldición de Malinche", "A la Patria" or "Historia Cotidiana" denounce injustices, discrimination, war and social violence, and amplify the voices of workers, youth, women, indigenous peoples and all the oppressed.

As part of his world tour, Gabino Will present "Cantos para Continuar" (Songs to Continue On), and he will also share his views of the current reality and the changes ocurring in Mexico under the current government.

Our community will be able to enjoy Gabino's music in a very special concert this Friday at 8 pm at Garage Cultural in Southwest Detroit. Also featured will be the Venezuelan and Caribbean music of Sobeida Martinez and the Spanish-language rap of Vicente Duran (SubVerso).

We invite the entire community to participate in this gathering!

El Tecolote*Please note: this event will be primarily in Spanish

Una leyenda de la Nueva Canción Mexicana llega a Detroit....*Este Viernes*

Esta semana nos visitará en Detroit el legendario cantautor mexicano Gabino Palomares, cuyas composiciones retratan la sociedad mexicana y latinoamericana en toda su complejidad. Originario de Guanajuato, Gabino es parte de una generación que creó movimientos político-culturales como la Nueva Canción latinoamericana y el Canto Nuevo en México. En sus propias palabras: "somos los de 'la cofradía del salmón': siempre yendo contra la corriente".

Canciones como "La Maldición de Malinche", "A la Patria" o "Historia Cotidiana" denuncian la injusticia, la discriminación, la guerra y la violencia social, y amplifican las voces de los trabajadores, los jóvenes, las mujeres, los pueblos indígenas y todos los oprimidos.

Como parte de su gira mundial, Gabino nos trae una presentación llamada "Cantos para Continuar", donde además nos contará de la realidad mexicana y los cambios que están ocurriendo en México bajo el actual gobierno.

Nuestra comunidad podrá disfrutar de la música de Gabino en un concierto muy especial este viernes a las 8 pm en Garage Cultural en Southwest Detroit.

También se presentará la música venezolana y caribeña de Sobeida Martínez y el rap en español de Vicente Durán (SubVerso).

¡Invitamos a toda la comunidad a participar de este encuentro!

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